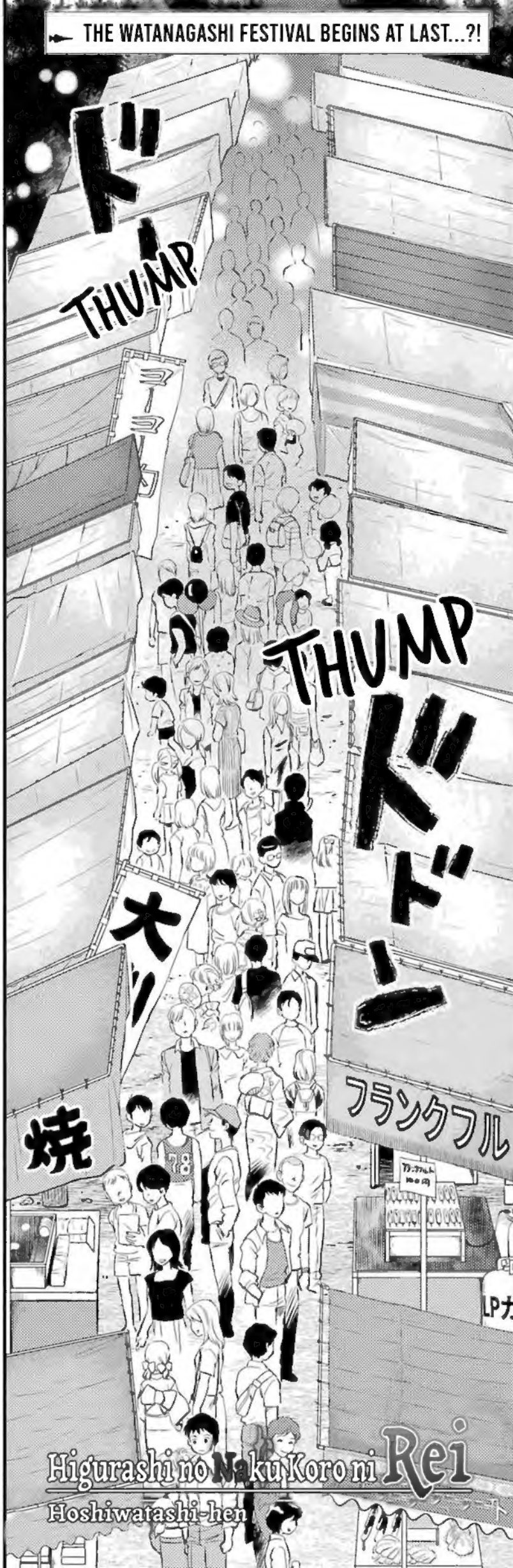
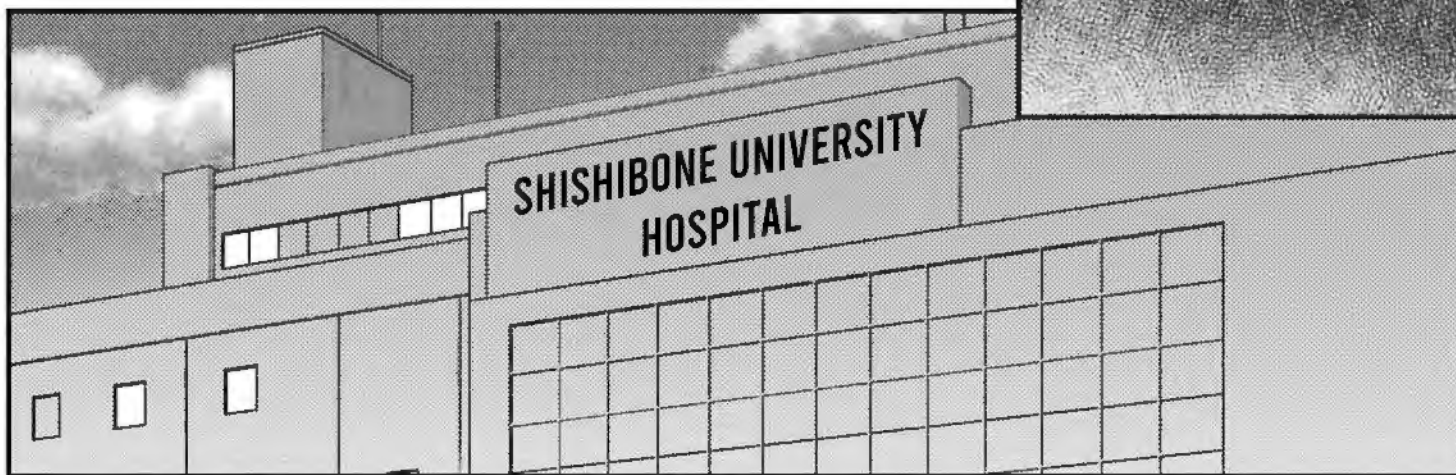




THE WATANAGASHI FESTIVAL BEGINS AT LAST...?!



Higurashi no Naku Koro ni Rei
Hoshiwatashi-hen



Higurashi Reiwa, simultaneously serializing in Gangan Online!!

Higurashi no Naku Koroni Rei

Hoshiwatashi-hen

HOSHIWATASHI & ONIOKOSHI
VOLUME 1 RELEASING
SIMULTANEOUSLY ON
JUNE 10TH!! FARE
INFORMATION AVAILABLE
ON PAGE 435!

ORIGINAL WORK: RYUKISHI07
MANGA: SEIGO TOKIYA



THE WATA-
NAGASHI
FESTIVAL
MUST'VE
ALREADY
BEGUN BY
NOW.

AND
THEN,
THIS
YEAR...

IT WAS
THE CURSE
OF OYA-
SHIRO-
SAMA.

ONE
PERSON
DIED AND
ONE WENT
MISSING ON
THE NIGHT
OF WATA-
NAGASHI.

LAST
YEAR,



HOW-
EVER,

AS OYA-
SHIRO-
SAMA'S
PRIESTESS,
I KNOW
THE CURSE
ISN'T REAL.

THERE
CERTAINLY
ARE ILL-
INTENTIONED
PEOPLE
WHO'D TRY
TO TAKE
ADVANTAGE
OF THE CURSE
PHENOMENON.



THE
CURSE OF OYA-
SHIRO-
SAMA?

THERE'S
NO SUCH
THING.



AND
I'M SURE
AT LEAST
ONE OF
THOSE
PIECES IS
WITHIN
POLARIS.

I STILL
DON'T
HAVE
ALL THE
PIECES TO
AVERT THIS
TRAGEDY.



THIS TIME,
THE ONLY
WAY I COULD
APPROACH
THIS WAS TO
ADAPT MY
METHOD AND
WARN KEIICHI,
MION, AND
KISAKU.



BUT UNDER-
STANDING
THEM
MAY BE NECES-
SARY,

TO
AVERT
THIS
YEAR'S
TRAGEDY.



I STILL
CAN'T
FULLY
TRUST
POLARIS.



KEI-
TAROU
SHOULD
BE AT THE
POLARIS
FESTIVAL
RIGHT
AROUND
NOW...



OH,
SORRY,
IT'S NOT
LIKE I'M
ACCUSING
YOU OR
ANYTHING.

YOU
MAY BE A
HINAMIZAWA
KID, BUT IT
SEEMS LIKE
YOU DO
SYMPATHIZE
WITH
POLARIS...

I'VE
BEEN THINKING
TOO HARD ABOUT
WHAT MARUTAKE-
SAN TOLD ME...



LIKE I
JUST SAID~!
THEY'RE
CALLING
FOR US,
SO WE NEED
TO GOOOOO!



AH...

SORRY,
WHAT
WERE YOU
SAYING?



I BEG OF YOU,
KEITAROU,

TEACH ME
MORE ABOUT
POLARIS...

SEN-
PAI...

MAEBARA-
SENPAL!



I AIN'T
HOPIN' FOR
NOTHING, YOU
LEWD MANGA
NUT!

OH, BUT
SENPAI, IT'S
NOT GOING TO
BE WHATEVER
YOU WERE
HOPING FOR!

YOU GET
TO SEE
SOMETHING
REALLY
PRECIOUS
TO US, SO
PLEASE LOOK
FORWARD
TO IT ★



YOU
THERE.

THEY
GOT
CALLED
FOR SOME-
THING?
LIKE
WHAT...?



KEI-
TAROU
MAEBARA-
KUN, I
PRESUME?



SO
INTIMI-
DATING!



JUST WHY
WOULD
THE SON OF
SOMEONE
LIKE THAT
COME
HERE...?



I WAS
SUR-
PRISED
WHEN
I FIRST
HEARD
IT FROM
HER.

YOUR
FATHER IS
A VERY
INFLUENTIAL
FIGURE IN
HINAMIZAWA,
MR. KEIICHI
MAEBARA.



I'M IN
CHARGE OF
POLARIS'S
EXTERNAL
RELATIONS.

I AM
KURURU'S
FATHER.

HUH?
KURURU'S
FATHER?!



clap clap clap

WHY...?

SUMMARY

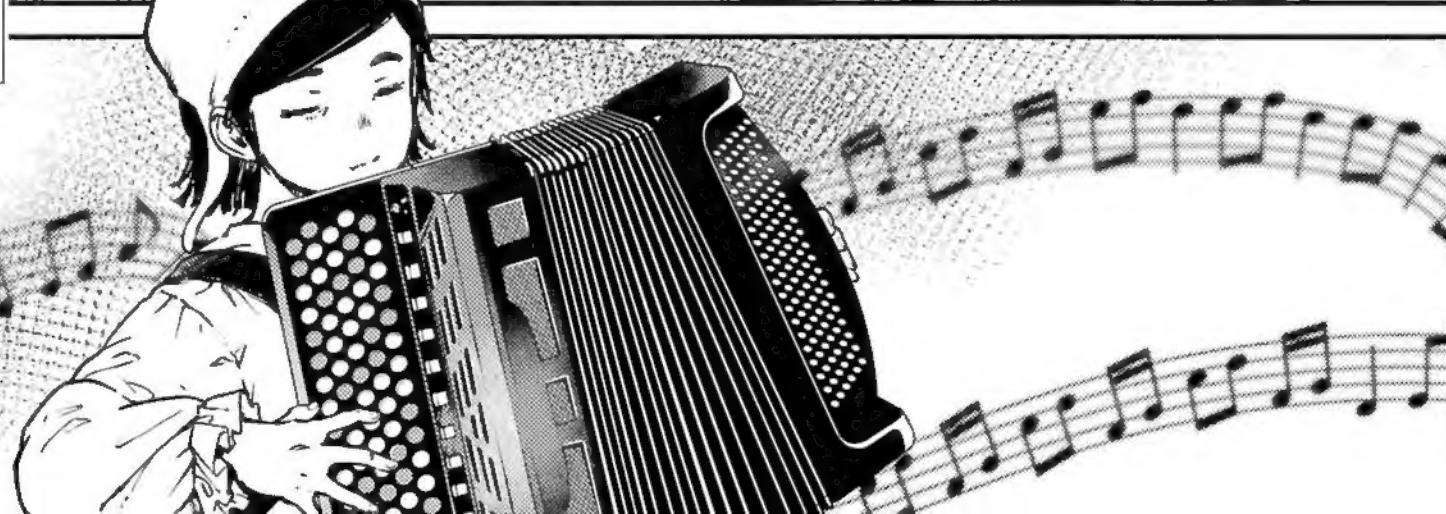
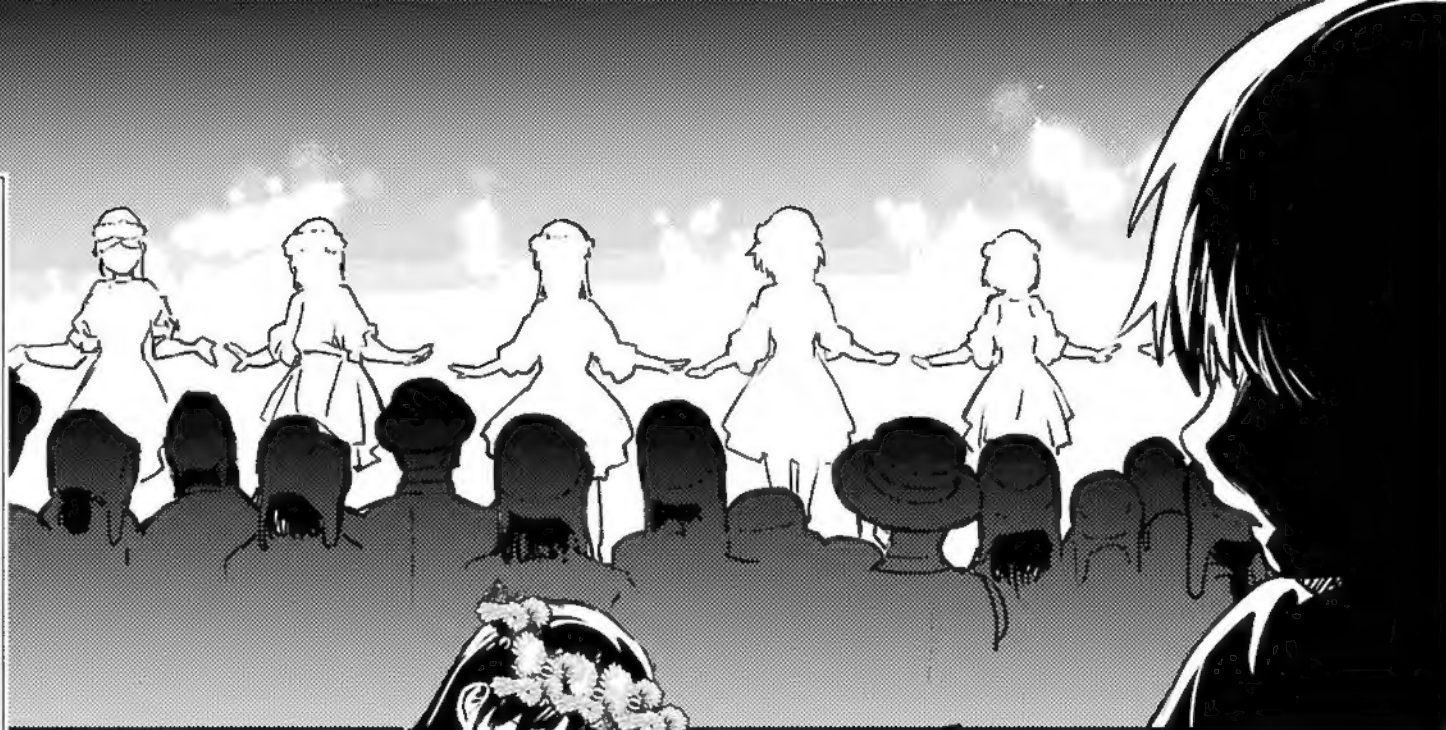
KEITAROU RECEIVED AN INVITATION TO THE POLARIS FESTIVAL FROM INORI. HOWEVER, IT'S THE SAME DAY AS THE WATANAGASHI FESTIVAL, CAUSING CONFLICT BETWEEN HIM AND HIS FRIENDS... KEITAROU HEADS TO THE POLARIS FESTIVAL, WHILE SAKIKO, TAMAKI, AND KIIHIRO GO TO WATANAGASHI...

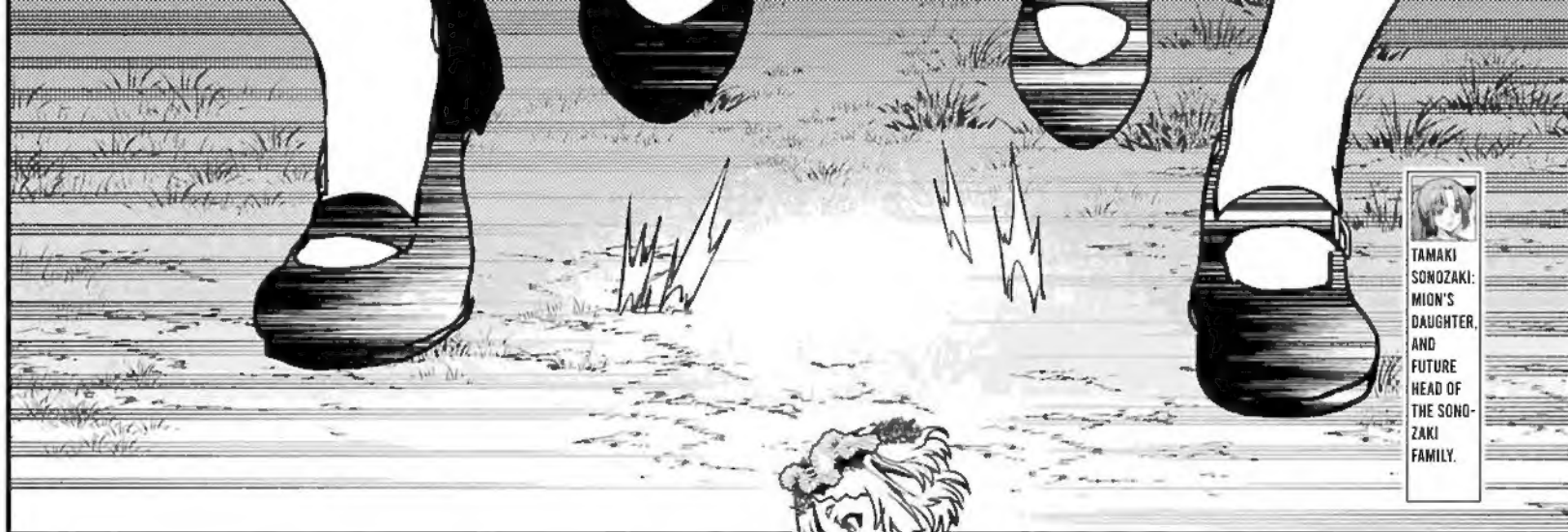


KEITAROU MAEBARA: KEIICHI'S ONLY SON. MOVED FROM TOKYO TO HINAMIZAWA.



KIIHIRO RYUGU: RENA'S SON. ESPECIALLY CLOSE TO KEITAROU, AND IN THE SAME CLASS.





TAMAKI SONOZAKI:
MION'S
DAUGHTER,
AND
FUTURE
HEAD OF
THE SONO-
ZAKI
FAMILY.



SAKIKO
KIMIYOSHI:
SATOKO'S
DAUGHTER,
ONE YEAR
OLDER
THAN
KEITAROU.







GREAT
JOB, BOTH
OF YOU!



WHAT
THE? PAPA'S
BEEN HERE
TOGETHER
WITH
YOUUUU?

AND
THOSE
OUTFITS...
LOOK GREAT
ON YOU.
MMHMM...



EHEHE~
IT'S
BECAUSE
WE
WORKED
SO HARD
PRACTIC-
ING~★

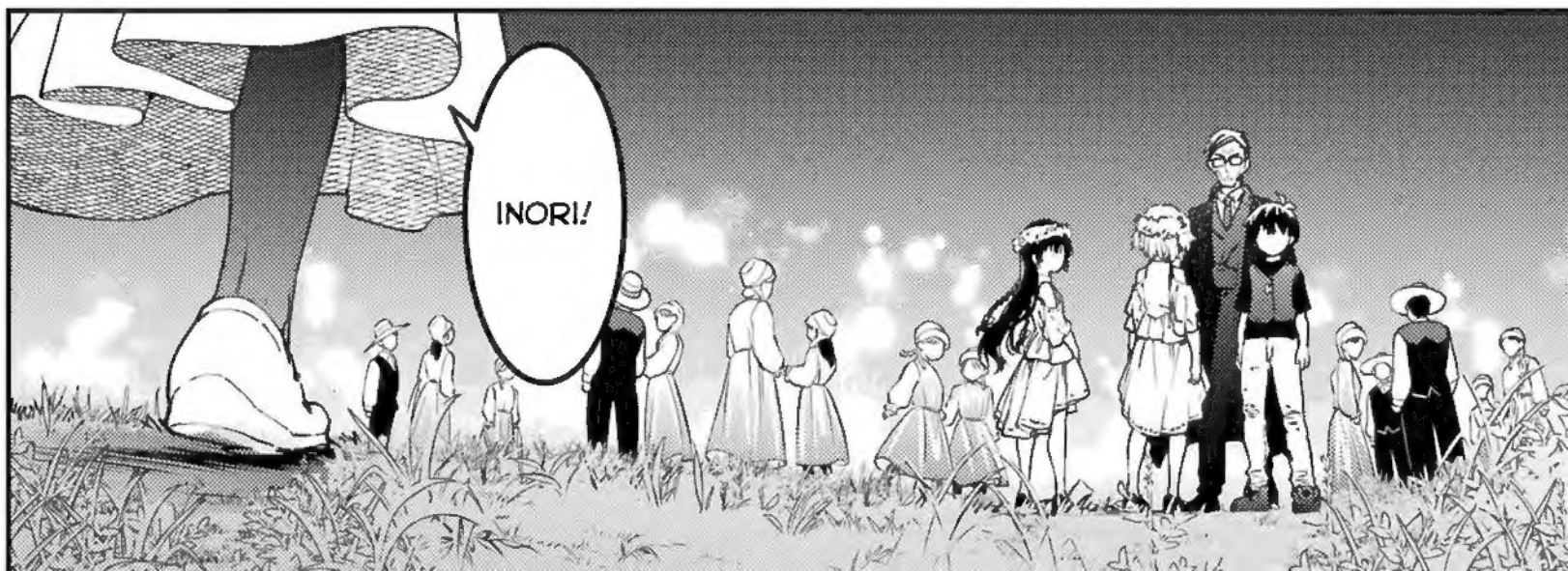
KURURU,
INORI-
CHAN,
YOU'VE GOT
SOME
SERIOUS
DANCING
SKILL!

THAT WAS
AMAZING!
I CAN'T
BELIEVE
YOUR LEGS
COULD MOVE
SO FAST
WHILE YOUR
UPPER
BODY STAYED
STILL.



...

Y-
YEAH...



INORI!





PLEASE
DO NOT
THINK ILL
OF HER.



HOLY
MOTHER!

HOL...



EVERY-
ONE
CLEARLY
GAVE IT
THEIR ALL
PRACTIC-
ING FOR
IT.

INDEED,
IT WAS
WONDER-
FUL.

WHAT
DID YOU
THINK
OF OUR
DANCING?



MANY
MEMBERS
OF THE
POLARIS
FAMILY
CAME HERE
WOUNDED
AND LOST TO
DESPAIR.

SHE...
NO, NOT
JUST
HER...



THESE
THINGS...
...TAKE
TIME.



AND
FOR
TRYING
TO
UNDER-
STAND
THEM,
YOU
HAVE
MY
THANKS.

KEI-
TAROU
MAEBARA-
SAN.
FOR
BE-
FRIENDING
THESE
LOVELY
CHILDREN
OF MINE,

HOLY
MOT-
HER...





KURURU,
IS THIS
TRUE?

I'M
KURURU
AND INORI-
CHAN'S...

ALLOW
ME TO
FOR-
MALLY
INTRO-
DUCE
MY-
SELF.

I'M
KEI-
TAROU
MAE-
BARA.

...FRIEND.

FRI-
END...

EEP!



WE'RE...

...FRIENDS.

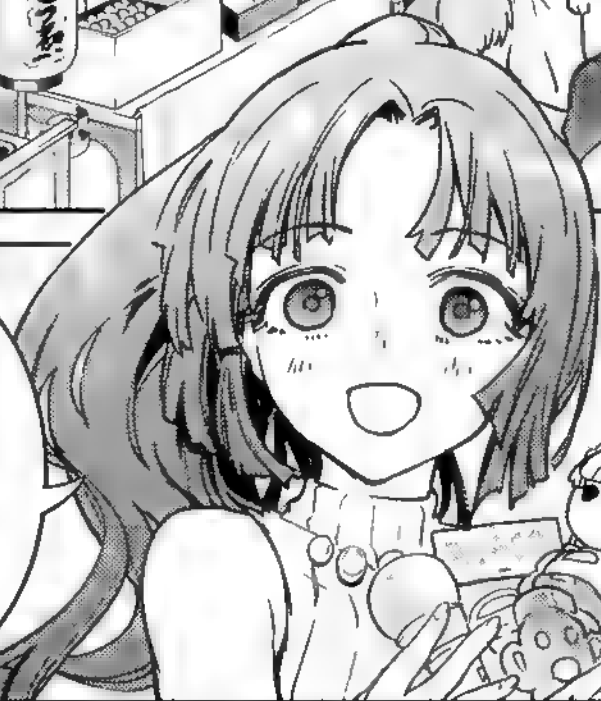
WELL, I
SUPPOSE HMM...
SO.







IT FEELS WRONG SOMEHOW, BUT I'M SO GLAD!



OH MY, YOU MEAN I CAN HAVE ALL OF THESE?!



KIHIRO-CHAN, YOUR RESOLVE TO RISE TO A CHALLENGE, WAS A TREAT TO SEE.

HERE, YOU CAN HAVE THIS BOX OF CARAMELS, SO CHEER UP, OKAY?



UUU... I WENT FOR THAT ONE BECAUSE IT WAS SO KYUTE...

ALTHOUGH, KIHIRO MIGHT'VE BEEN ABLE TO WIN IF HE HADN'T GONE FOR THAT HUGE STUFFED ANIMAL UP THERE.



WHEN IT COMES TO SHOOTING CONTESTS, TAMA HAS US BEAT-



I HEARD
KEITAROU-
KUN WENT TO
THE POLARIS
FESTIVAL.

turn



thomp

thomp

WHO SAID
THAT...?

JUST
NOW...



...DOES
KEIICHI-KUN
KNOW ABOUT
THIS?

IT
CAN'T
BE!

FOR
KEITAROU-
KUN TO DO
SOMETHING
TO BETRAY
HINAMIZAWA!

...

DID
ANYONE
HEAR
ANYTHING
FROM HIM
DIRECTLY?

I SAW
KEITAROU
THIS MORNING,
RIDING HIS
BIKE TOWARD
YAGOUCHI.

KEITAROU
MAY BE AN
OUTSIDER,
BUT THAT
BOY LOVES
HINAMIZAWA.
WATA-
NAGASHI
SINCE HE
MOVED
HERE, ISN'T
IT?

HE DID?
NO WAY...

HE
DIDN'T
WANT TO
COME HERE
AND ENJOY
WATANAGASHI?

KEITAROU-
KUN WENT
WITH THOSE
POLARIS
GUYS?

crackle




AGAIN
WITH THE
FOOD
REVIEW?


IT WOULD BE
DISRESPECTFUL
TO THE CHEF NOT
TO PRAISE IT, IT'S
JUST THAT
DELICIOUS!
WHOEVER YOU
ARE, CHEF,
PLEASE MARRY
ME!

MGH!
THIS
COOKIE
IS SO DANG
TASTY!

THE TONS
OF BUTTER USED
CREATES THIS
MELT-IN-YOUR-
MOUTH TEXTURE.
THE SALT SPRINKLED
ON TOP REALLY
BRINGS OUT THE
SWEETNESS THAT
WAS ALREADY
THERE EVEN MORE!
EVEN WITH THESE
SIMPLE INGREDIENTS
YOU CAN FEEL THE
TIME AND EFFORT
THAT WENT
TO IT!

crunch


INORI
YUZUKI
A MYST-
ERIOUS
GIRL WHO
GOES TO
THE SAME
SCHOOL
AS
KEITAROU


ISSHIKI
A GIRL
WHO GOES
TO KEI-
TAROU'S
SCHOOL
ONE YEAR
YOUNGER



MAN, THEY WERE SO DAMN TASTY, I COULDN'T HELP BUT THINK I'D LOVE TO HAVE 'EM EVERY SINGLE DAY...

O-OH, IS THAT SO...? HAHHAHA...

M...MY MOM AND I...MADE THEM TOGETHER...



HUH? AH, INORI-CHAN?

RIGHT HERE!



IF YOU'D LIKE, AS THANKS I COULD...

...

IF I PICKLED SOME OF THOSE USING A MASTER CHEF'S RECIPE, THEY'D BE SO DELICIOUS.

THEY SELL POLARIS GROWN VEGETABLES AT THE HINA-MIZAWA SUPER-MARKET, RIGHT?

OH... BY THE WAY,



I SEE. BUT, YOU'VE BEEN TREATING ME SO MUCH TODAY...

WELL, IT'S MORE LIKE WE CAN'T RECEIVE GIFTS FROM OUTSIDERS...



I'D LIKE TO PAY YOU BACK SOMEHOW...



NO, WAIT. THERE'S SOMETHING LIKE A RULE AGAINST POLARIS RECEIVING GIFTS, ISN'T THERE?

OH... UMM...



THIS
FESTIVAL IS
A BIG DEAL
FOR POLARIS,
ISN'T IT? I
CAN'T BELIEVE
YOU INVITED
ME TO IT.

I
SHOULD
BE
THE ONE
THANKING
YOU.

I-IT'S
BE-
CAUSE...



FOR...
COMING
OUT
TO OUR
FESTIVAL
TODAY.

THANK
YOU SO
MUCH,

KEI-
TAROU-
SAN,



...WE
NEVER
IMAGINED
THAT SOMEONE
FROM HINA-
MIZAWA COULD
UNDERSTAND
US.



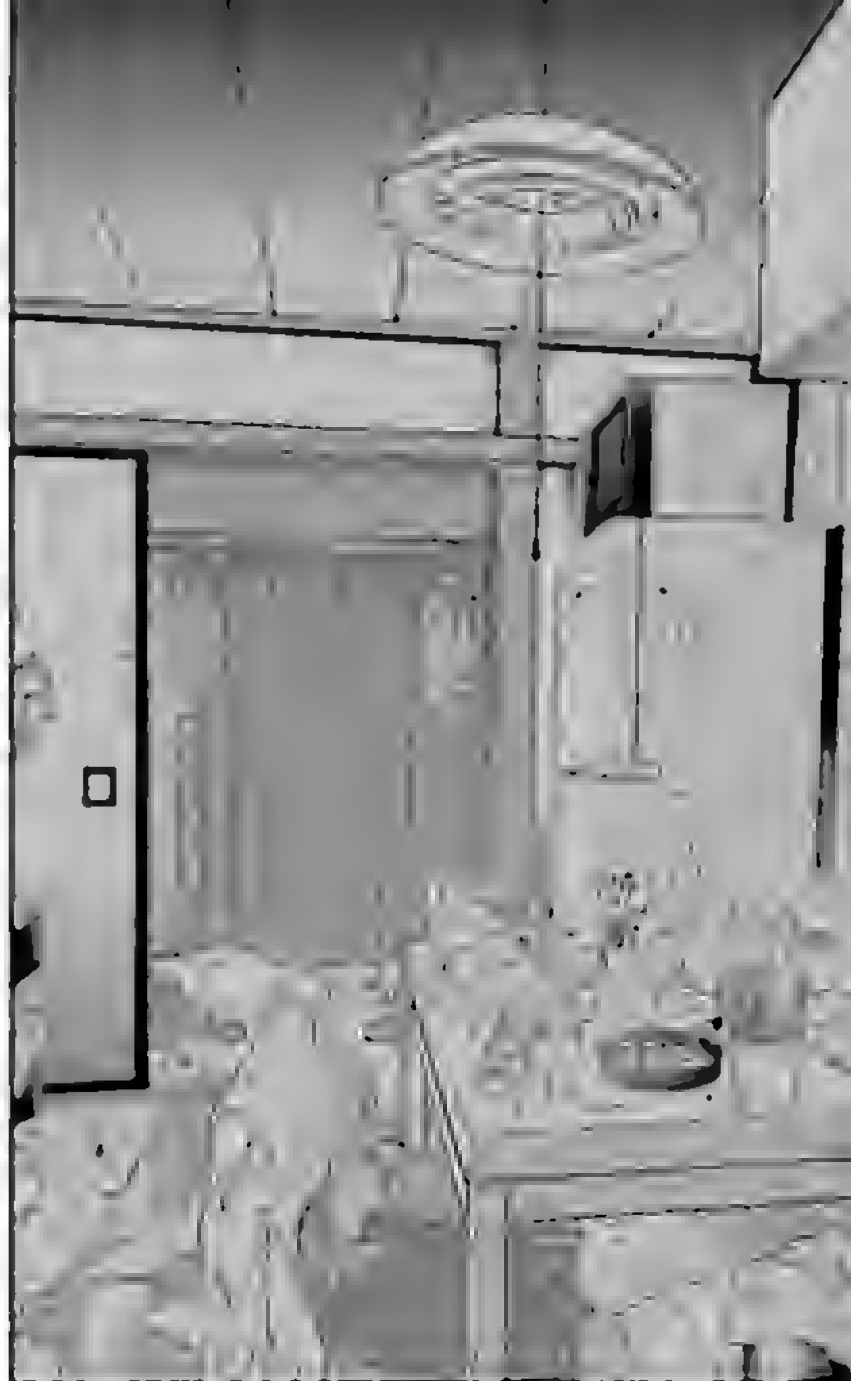
WE...

MY
MOM AND
I RAN AWAY
FROM MY
DAD.





...A
TERRIFY-
ING
MAN



MY
FATHER
WAS...



THANKS
TO THAT
GUIDANCE,
WE WERE
ABLE TO
GET OUT
OF THAT
HOUSE!

IT'S
OKAY TO
CUT TIES WITH
YOUR FAMILY
AND ESCAPE
FROM TOXIC
BONDS

MY
MOM
AND I...
COULD
NEVER GET
AWAY FROM
MY DAD
BUT
THEN MOM
LEARNED OF
THE HOLY
MOTHER'S
TEACHINGS.



WHEN BUT...
WE CAME
TO THE
OUTSIDE
WORLD, WE
REALIZED...





YA
COULDN'T
TALK THINGS
OUT WITH YER
HUSBAND?
YA GOT ALONG
AT ONE POINT,
DONTCHYA...?

GIVE
IT UP!
THOSE
GUYS
CAN'T
BE
TRUST-
ED!

NO NO,
THAT'S
EXACTLY
WHY YA
CAN'T GO
THERE!
AND TO
TAKE A
KID...

ARE YOU...
YA KNOW?
WERE YA
ABUSED
BY YER
HUSBAND?
AND THAT'S
WHY YER
RUNNIN'?



...IT
WASN'T
JUST DAD
WE WERE
AFRAID OF,
BUT OTHER
PEOPLE
TOO.

MOM
AND
I...



RIGHT.

I'M NO
GOOD AT
INTERACTING
WITH PEOPLE,
AND THAT
PROBABLY
MAKES THEM
UNCOMFOR-
TABLE.

UMM...
AND IT'S
NOT JUST
ABOUT OUT-
SIDERS.



THERE
ARE GOOD
PEOPLE OUT
THERE IN
THE REST OF
THE WORLD. I
UNDERSTAND
THAT,
BUT...

...I'M
STILL
SCARED.



BUT I
REALIZE
THAT'S NOT
SOMETHING
OUTSIDERS
WOULD UNDER-
STAND...

SO...
POLARIS'
GROUND RULE
THAT YOU
DON'T NEED TO
INTERACT WITH
OUTSIDERS...



HERE,
DRINK
SOME
TEA.

A-ARE
YOU
OKAY?

IT'S
BEEN A
LONG
TIME...
SINCE I
TALKED
SO MUCH...

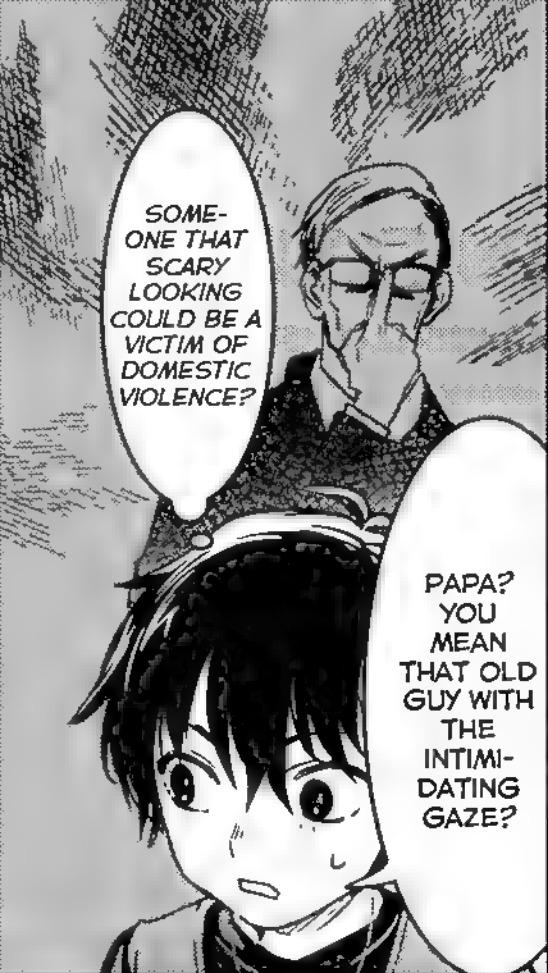
THANK
Y...



INORI
TOLD YOU
HER STORY,
SO I SHOULD
DO THE
SAME.



COUGH COUGH



SOME-ONE THAT SCARY LOOKING COULD BE A VICTIM OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE?

PAPA? YOU MEAN THAT OLD GUY WITH THE INTIMIDATING GAZE?



MY MOTHER WAS EXTREMELY ABUSIVE, SO PAPA AND I RAN AWAY TOGETHER.



I WASN'T THINKING THAT AT ALL!

HEHE...
BY THE WAY, MAEBARA-SENPAI, I BET YOU WERE THINKING KURURU-CHAN IS SO CUTE AND SEXY~ FOR BEING ABLE TO ACT BRIGHT AND ENERGETIC DESPITE BEING ABUSED~

THAT'S RIIIGHT. BECAUSE MY MOTHER WAS JUST THAT HORRENDOUS.



BUT SHE'S A MEMBER OF POLARIS TOO, WHICH MEANS SHE'S IN THE SAME SITUATION...



IT WAS ALWAYS JUST INORI-CHAN'S FACE THAT I PICTURED...

EVERY TIME I REMEMBERED THAT THE MEMBERS OF POLARIS ARE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE VICTIMS,



BUT, IT'S TRUE.





I WANT
TO STAY HERE
FOREVER, WITH
MY BELOVED
FAMILY...

I WANT
TO LIVE A
QUIET LIFE
HERE WITH
EVERYONE...



I KNEW
IT, THAT
WAS IT...



I...

I LIKE
HINA-
MIZAWA.



A large panel showing three people from behind, looking out at a dark, starry night sky. The person in the center has long, dark hair. The person on the right has short, light-colored hair. The person on the left is partially visible.


SOCIETY
CONSTANTLY
MAKES A
BIG DEAL
OUT OF
COMMUNI-
CATION.

BREAKING IT
OFF IS STILL
CONSIDERED
A BAD THING.

BUT WHAT
ABOUT THE
PEOPLE WHO
ARE PAINED
BY COMMUNI-
CATION?

THE REASON
THE POLARIS
DOCTRINE
PROHIBITS
COMMUNI-
CATION.

I'M SURE
IT'S BECAUSE
THEY DON'T
WANT TO FORCE
COMMUNICATION
ON PEOPLE
WHO'VE BEEN
DRIVEN TO
DESPAIR BY
HUMANITY.

A smaller panel showing a group of people in a dark, starry environment. A person with long hair is in the foreground, looking towards the right. Other people are visible in the background.

IN FACT,
EVEN IF IT'S
ONLY ON THE
DAY OF THE
FESTIVAL,
IT SEEMS
LIKE THEY'RE
ENJOYING IT.

BUT...DEEP
IN THEIR
HEARTS,
THEY'RE NOT
REJECTING
COMMUNI-
CATION.

A WORLD
LIKE THAT IS
TOO PAINFUL
FOR PEOPLE
WHO'VE BEEN
WOUNDED,
WHO FEEL
DESPAIR
AGAINST
HUMANITY.

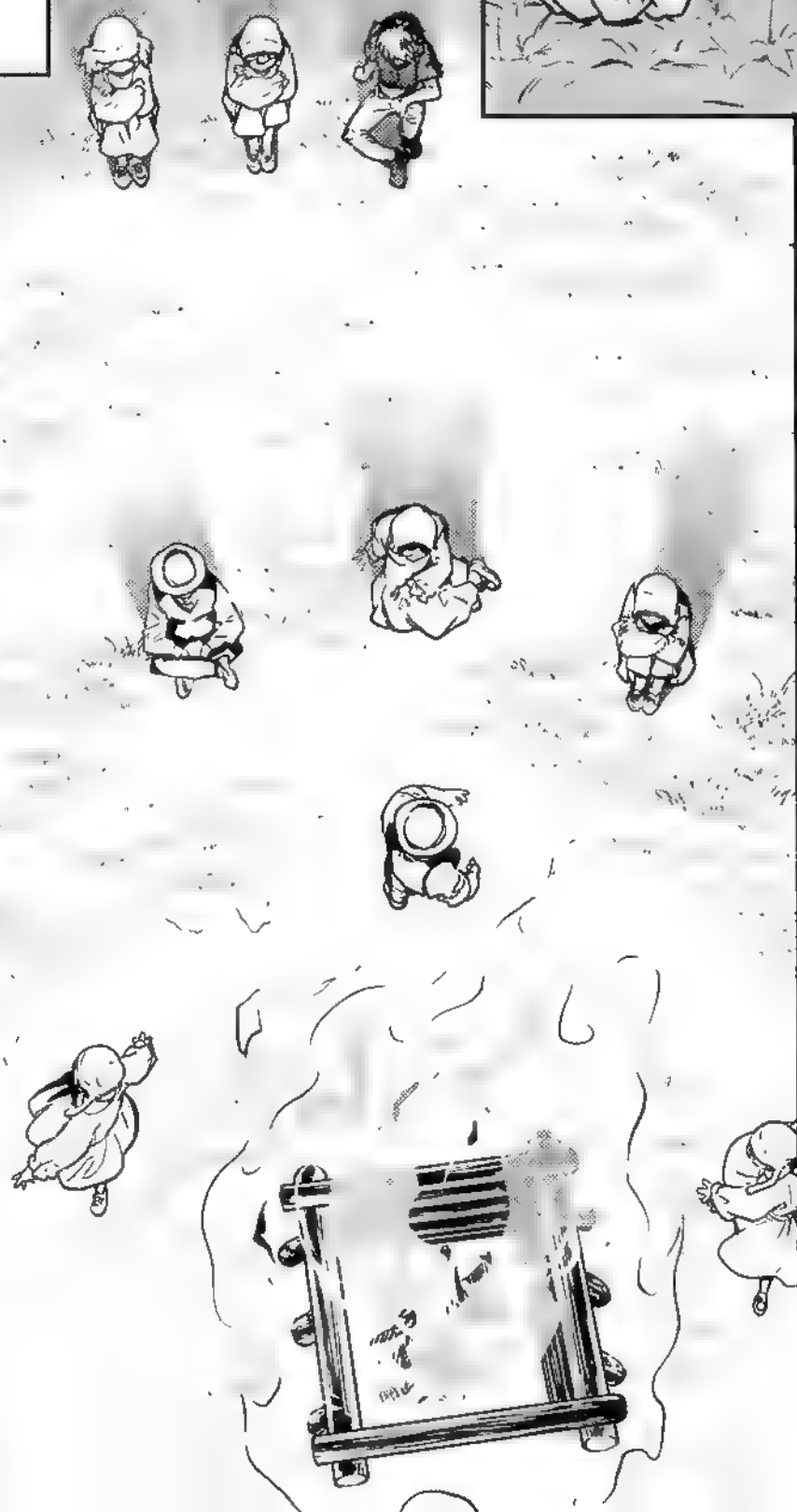
WE CAN
UNDER-
STAND ONE
ANOTHER!

BUT IN
THE END,
THEY'RE
PEOPLE
JUST
LIKE US.

THE MEMBERS
OF POLARIS
HAVE BEEN
DEEPLY HURT.

WHAT I
FELT FROM
INORI-CHAN...
I KNEW IT,
THAT WAS
IT.

clench







WOOW~,
SO THIS IS
MELANCHOLY?
SIS SAKI,
YOU'RE
AMAZING!

THESE
ARE SOME
STELLAR
SHOTS,
IF I DO
SAY SO
MYSELF!

ALL
RIGHT,
THIS'LL
DEFINITELY
BE THE
THUMBNAIL
FOR THE
NEXT SMILE
SHOP
VIDEO~

SOME-
HOW,
THIS
FEELS
BLASPHE-
MOUS...

THIS
IS A
CERE
MONY
FOR
SHOWING
GRATI-
TUDE
TO OYA-
SHIRO-
SAMA.



SNAP



OH?
WELL IF IT
ISN'T UNCLE
KATOU!
GOOD
EVENING!
DID YOU
NEED S--



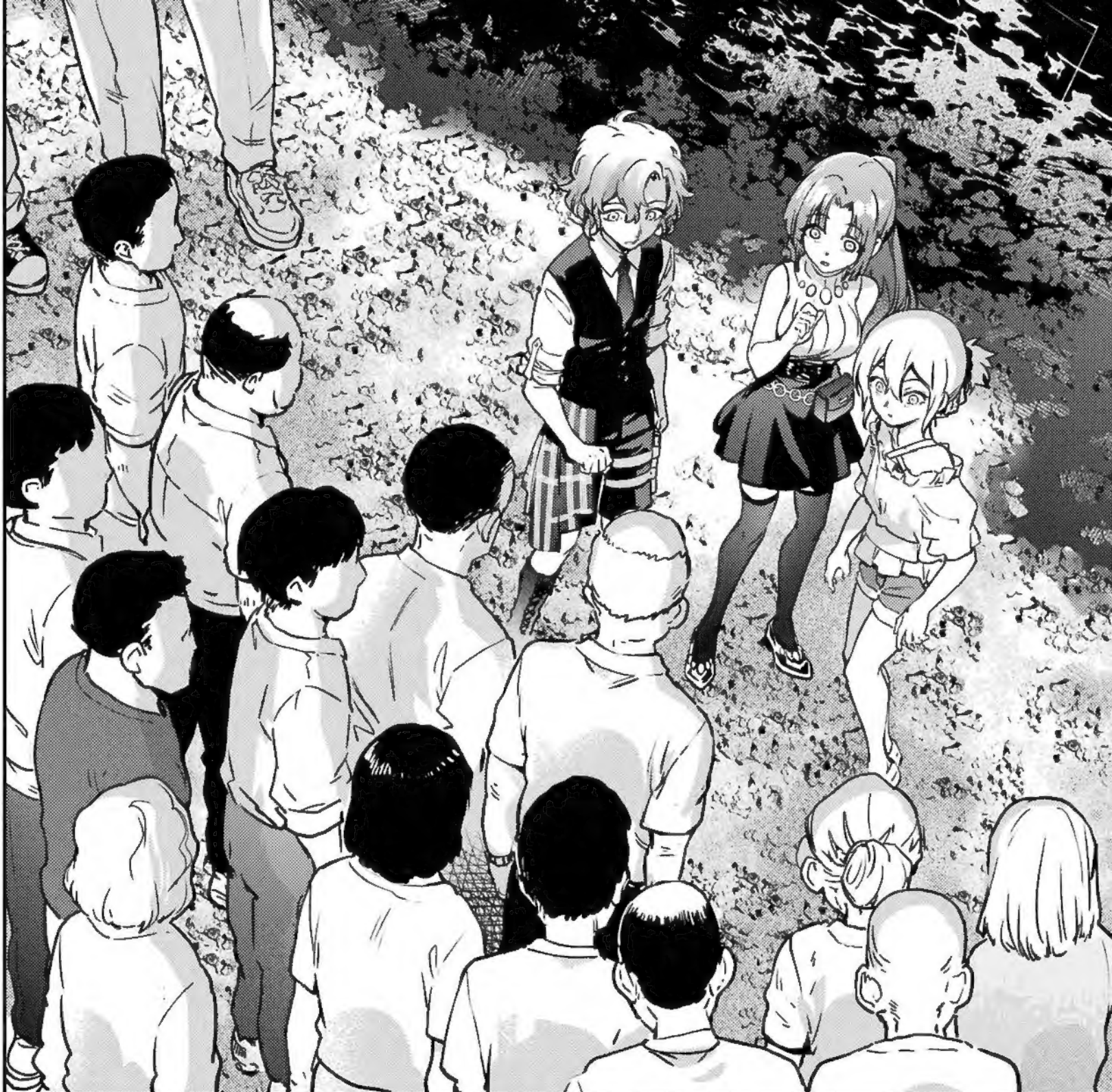
HEEEEEY,
SAKIKO-CHAN,
TAMAKI-CHAN,
KIHRO-KUN!

OH,
THERE
YOU
ARE!



SHE SAID
OYASHIRO-SAMA
WOULD WANT
US TO LIVE
OUR DAILY LIVES
PEACEFULLY AND
ENJOYABLY!

IT'S
FINE~,
BIG SIS
RIKA
SAID
SO!



**DID HE
REALLY
SIDE WITH
POLARIS?**


⚡ AN OMINOUS ATMOSPHERE SUDDENLY BREAKS OUT...

2022

Vol. 07

6/24
Release

TBC

A grayscale manga illustration serves as the background. On the left, a character with dark hair and a star-shaped headband looks forward. On the right, a character with light-colored hair and a headband looks towards the left. The text is overlaid on this image.

Higurashi no Naku Koro ni Rei: Hoshiwatashi-hen

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